

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, and 18-21 are pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bone (U.S. Pat. No. 6,286,611). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant notes that the '611 patent to Bone does not employ a tool body and an attachment, each of which having a separate gear reduction mechanism. Applicant notes that column 8, lines 61 through 66 provide:

[in] particular, **the male cog (32) is directly attached to the motor spindle** and a severe blow to this spindle could damage the motor itself whereby recessing the cog (32) within the tool body (4) the cog itself is protected from receiving any direct blows, for example if the tool body was dropped without a head attachment. (emphasis added)

Moreover, the output speed of the cog (32) is described in column 6, lines 57 and 58 as "approaching 15,000 rpm", which further indicates that the cog (32) is directly driven by the motor without a gear reduction therebetween.

Claim 1 requires that both the body and the attachment have a respective gear mechanism and that each gear mechanism facilitate a change in the rotation speed between the input and output of the respective gear mechanism. Similarly, Claim 11 requires that a first gear arrangement be disposed within the body and a second gear arrangement be disposed within the attachment and that both the first and second gear

arrangements non-adjustably change a corresponding gear (rotational) ratio between an input and an output.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the '611 patent to Bone does not teach or suggest each and every element of Claims 1 and 11. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of Claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Applicant notes that Claims 2 through 4, 6, 8 through 10, and 20 depend from Claim 1 and that Claims 12 through 16 and 21 depend from Claim 11. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 2 through 4, 6, 8 through 10, 12 through 16, 20 and 21 are in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bone (U.S. Pat. No. 6,286,611) in view of Curtiss (U.S. Pat. No. 4,274,304), and/or in view of applicant's admitted prior art. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant refers the Examiner to the above section for a discussion of the '611 patent to Bone. Applicant submits that Bone and Curtiss, either individually or in combination, teach or suggest a body having a first gear mechanism and an attachment with a second gear mechanism wherein each of the first and second gear mechanisms performs a speed reduction operation. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the combination of Bone and Curtiss does not present a prima facie case of obviousness in that it does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Claims 18 and 19. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of Claims 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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